聖痕のクエイサー

Chevalier
RED

16

原作 吉野弘幸　漫画 佐藤健悦

THE QWASER OF STIGMATA

16

HIROYUKI YOSHINO & KENETSU SATO

CHAMPION RED COMICS

秋田書店

THE QWASER OF STIGMATA HIROYUKI YOSHINO & KENETSU SATO

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STORY

【前巻までのお話】女性の聖乳を吸うことで、特定元翼を自在に操ることができる能力者、その名もクェイサー。まふゆを救うために王聖女皇生誕に参加した鉄のクェイサー、サーシャ。謎の錬違いが参加者を次々と襲ったことから、サーシャに疑いの目が向けられるが、その真犯人はシスター・ウィルマと行動を共にしていた謎の戦士スィディマーヤ＝マースカであった。

聖痕のクェイサー 16

初出／チャンピオンRED 2012年12月号～2013年4月号

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Chapter 73: Reviver

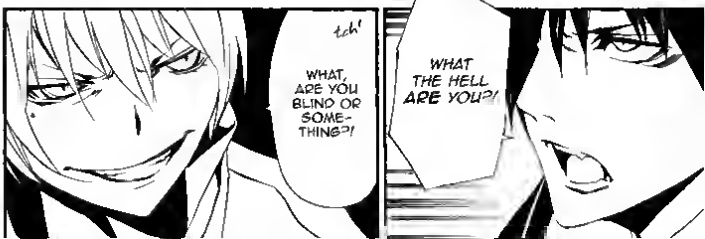
"HEAD-LINER"?
AND IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT...
WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO DO SOME-THING ABOUT IT?!
WHOOSH
HEY, HOW ABOUT WE MAKE IT "HEAD-LESS-LINER"?
REEEEEEE
HAH! YOU TALK!
BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M ALIVE AND WELL!

WHAM
TASUKU...

WHEN WE FOUGHT IN THE TOURNAMENT...
IN THAT MOMENT...
SO MY IRON CRUMBLED TO DUST...
...HE BOOSTED THE MAGNETIC FORCE BETWEEN THE STAVES SO MUCH...
...WHICH HE MOVED AND RESHAPED ON HIS BACK, TO GIVE THE ILLUSION OF HAVING BEEN STABBED CLEAN THROUGH.
...THAT AS MY BLADE PASSED THROUGH THE GAP, ITS MOLECULAR BONDS WERE DISRUPTED.

THEN, WHILE HE PLAYED DEAD HE GAVE ME A NOTE
IN IT, HE APOLOGIZED FOR HAVING MISTRUSTED ME...
AND WARNED ME THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOMEONE ELSE AROUND THAT LOOKS JUST LIKE ME...

AND ABOUT THAT HE WAS ENTIRELY CORRECT.
YOU LOOK JUST LIKE SASHA
AND YOU'RE EVEN A GOD DAMN IRON USER!


tch!
WHAT, ARE YOU BLIND OR SOME-THING?!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU?!

I'M HIS TWIN!
AND I'VE BEEN JUST DYING TO MEET YOU, BROTHER!
WHAT?!
pff
HE HE HE
SERI-OUSLY, YOU FELL FOR THAT?!
I'M LYING, YOU FUCKING IDIOTS!

YOU.
SASHA
LET ME DO THIS.
FOR BROTHER BARROW...!
WHOOM
WHOOOM
FOR MUTSUMI!
WHOOM

HAH!
WAY TOO SLOW!
DODODODODO
CHK
TING
CLANG
CLINK
PING
CLANK
MA—
MAGNETIC...?!
HOOO

MMMMMMMMM
MAN
OKAY, LET'S DO THIS
HE'S GOOD WITH HIS H_NDS
WHOOM

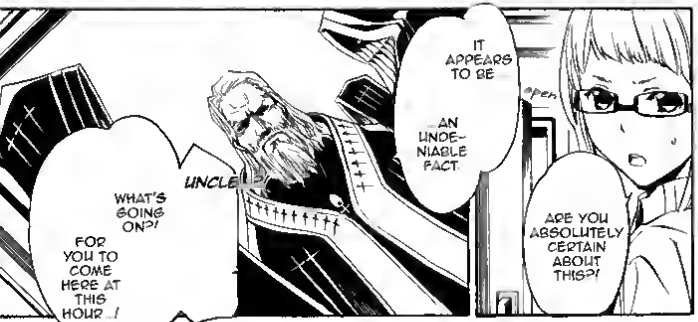
BUT THEN
SO AM I!
POW!
REEEEEE
NOW, SASHA!
THUNK
THOK
THOK
THUD
THOK
THOK
THOK
THOK

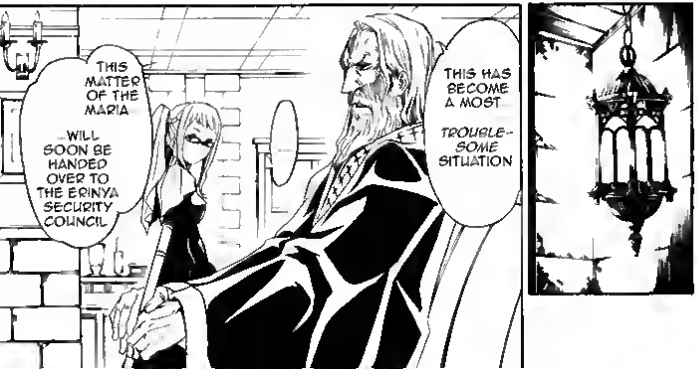
stumble
KUUH.
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS IT.
YOU SHITS...
PLEASE STOP!
stop

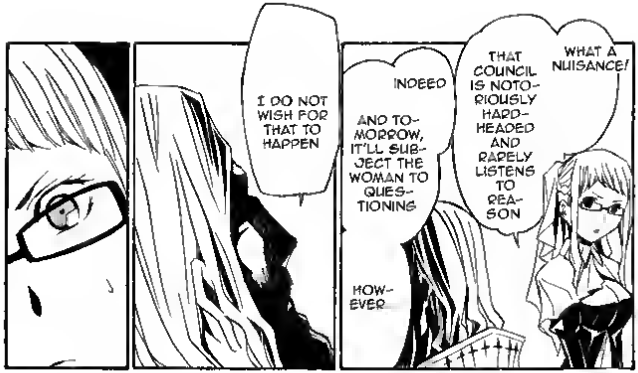
IF YOU'RE GOING TO KILL THIS CHILD
PLEASE, KILL ME FIRST!
WHAT THE...?!
LADY, GET THE FUCK OUT OF THE WAY!
I'M IN NO MOOD TO GO EASY ON YOU JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE A WOMAN!
THAT DOES NOT MATTER
IF YOU WANT TO AVENGE MUTSUMI-SAN
PLEASE, TAKE IT OUT ON ME UNTIL YOU FEEL SATIS-FIED
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
I'M SURPRISED YOU HAVEN'T GUESSED
I'M DOING THIS BE-CAUSE
I'M HIS MARIA!
...!!

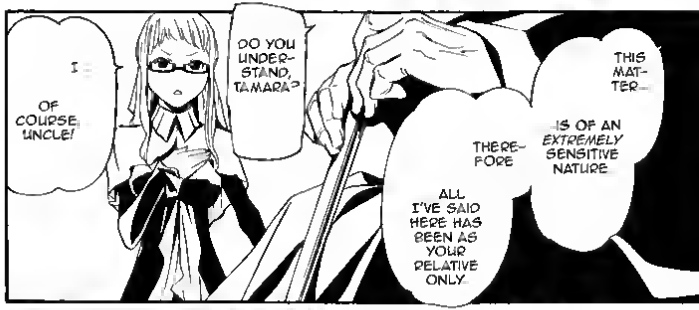
leap
!!
yank
step
SISTER WILMA
SHIT...
...
I'M SORRY, TERESA
THIS IS SIMPLY THE PART I HAVE TO PLAY
THEY WILL IMPRISON YOU NOW

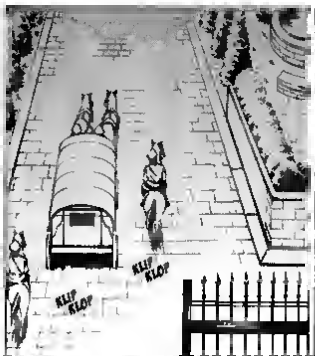
TO BE PRECISE...
...IT'S A WOMAN WHO CLAIMS TO BE THE DOUBLE'S MARIA
BUT THE DOUBLE APPEARS TO BE AT LARGE.
A DOUBLE OF THE IRON USER?!


IT APPEARS TO BE
...AN UNDENIABLE FACT.
open
ARE YOU ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN ABOUT THIS?!
UNCLE
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
FOR YOU TO COME HERE AT THIS HOUR...!


THIS MATTER OF THE MARIA
...WILL SOON BE HANDED OVER TO THE ERINYA SECURITY COUNCIL
THIS HAS BECOME A MOST TROUBLESOME SITUATION


WHAT A NUISANCE!
THAT COUNCIL IS NOTORIOUSLY HARD-HEADED AND RARELY LISTENS TO REASON
INDEED
AND TOMORROW, IT'LL SUBJECT THE WOMAN TO QUESTIONING
HOWEVER
I DO NOT WISH FOR THAT TO HAPPEN


THIS MATTER
IS OF AN *EXTREMELY* SENSITIVE NATURE
THEREFORE
ALL I'VE SAID HERE HAS BEEN AS YOUR RELATIVE ONLY
DO YOU UNDERSTAND, TAMARA?
I...
OF COURSE, UNCLE!


KLIP KLOP
KLIP KLOP

I WILL PRAY FOR THAT MARIA
TO FIND HERSELF IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD SHORTLY!
VERY GOOD
PRAY

CLINK
THIS ISN'T SOMETHING I COULD DO ON MY OWN
THE RISK WOULD BE FAR TOO GREAT
BUT WITH ALL THAT SAID
NENA
YOU'VE UNDERGONE EXTENSIVE COMBAT TRAINING, YES?
I HAVE
THEN WOULD YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW OF, SAY
A COMPETENT PROFESSIONAL WHO CAN TAKE ON A SENSITIVE TASK RIGHT NOW
AND ABOVE ALL BE DISCREET ABOUT IT?
WELL, RIGHT NOW?
I GUESS THERE IS SOMEONE LIKE THAT IN TOWN

THIS IS THE ROOM NENA MENTIONED
GOOD-NESS!
WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
click
!!
YOU'RE ...!
MY INTRIGUING NEW CLIENT, I PRESUME?

OH, RELAX!
I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE
BUT THE PRICE FOR WHAT YOU'RE ASKING WILL BE HIGH...
JUST LET ME KNOW HOW MUCH I SHALL PREPARE
PLEASE MONEY DOESN'T INTEREST ME
WHAT I WANT IS FOR YOU TO TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES... KNEEL
AND THEN PLACE YOUR LIPS...
RIGHT HERE
OH?
THIS IS NOT A JOKE!
THEN NEITHER IS THIS

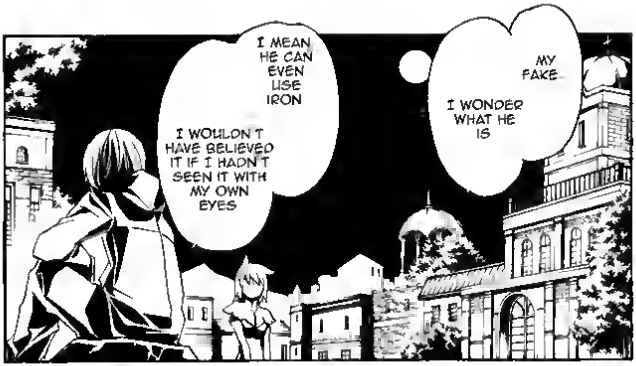
AND IF YOU REFUSE...
MAYBE I'LL LET IT SLIP THAT THE VERY ABBESS OF THE HOLY SANCTUM HERSELF
CAME KNOCKING ON MY DOOR IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT
...WITH THE MOST OUTLANDISH REQUEST!
thwrrl
BUT YOU'RE A SUBORDINATE TO MY UNCLE!
WELL, NOT REALLY
...AND SOON IT JUST MIGHT BE THE OTHER WAY AROUND!
COME NOW, DECIDE!
OBEY ME AND FULFILL YOUR WISH
...OR BE RUINED FOREVER
click
rustle

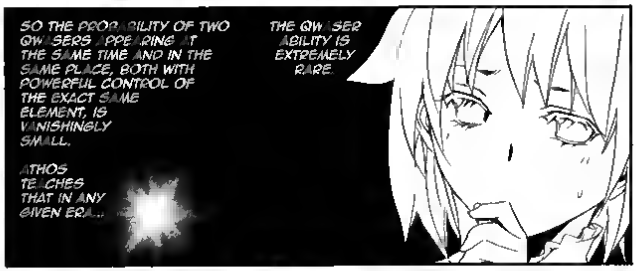
blush
slip
AND
KS!

IT'S SISTER WILMA...
SHE MUSTN'T TALK TO THE COUNCIL!
I DON'T CARE HOW YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN!
I SEE
AND ARE YOU SURE THAT'S ALL YOU CAME HERE FOR?
NOW THEN
IT'S YOUR TURN
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT?
IN DETAIL
ALL I...?
DON'T MIS-UNDER-STAND!
WE'VE MADE A DEAL, YES
BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN...
THAT I SOMEHOW SUBMIT TO YOU!
AND THAT'S WHY...
IT'S WORTH BREAKING
THAT LOOK IN YOUR EYES...
IT'S SO LOVELY
WHAT?!
GRAB

PUSH
!!
STOP!
SQUEEZE
TWITCH
YOU STOP THIS AT ONCE!

PLEASE, ST—
PLEASE!
AAAAAAA


I MEAN HE CAN EVEN USE IRON
I WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED IT IF I HADN'T SEEN IT WITH MY OWN EYES
MY FAKE...
I WONDER WHAT HE IS

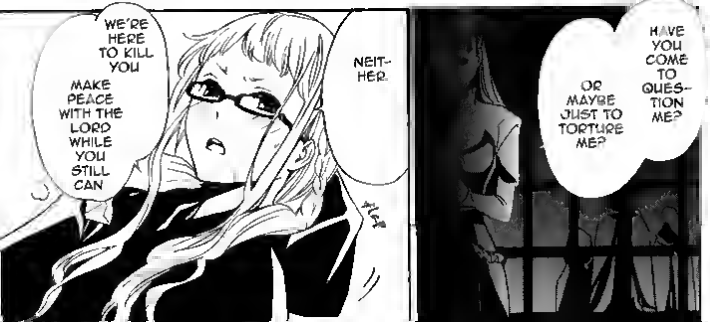

SO THE PROBABILITY OF TWO QWAISERS APPEARING AT THE SAME TIME AND IN THE SAME PLACE, BOTH WITH POWERFUL CONTROL OF THE EXACT SAME ELEMENT, IS VANISHINGLY SMALL.
ATHOS TEACHES THAT IN ANY GIVEN ERA...
THE QWAISER ABILITY IS EXTREMELY RARE.

NO DOUBT...
THERE'S SOMETHING BIGGER BACKING THEM UP
I AGREE
AT ANY RATE...
I DON'T THINK THE PROPHET KILLINGS ARE THE WORK OF JUST THESE TWO
...THERE'S ALMOST ALWAYS ONLY ONE SINGLE QWAISER BORN FOR A SPECIFIC ELEMENT.

CHECK THIS OUT
WE FINALLY MADE CONTACT WITH THAT WEIRDO PRIEST
HEY!
HEY, SASHA!
GET OVER HERE!
COME ON, IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE DOING THIS JUST TO MESS WITH YOUR DAY
AS USUAL, GETTING THROUGH TO THAT PLACE IS A PAIN
YES, FINE...
I'M SORRY TO SAY THIS TERESA
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT MY TIME WITH HER WHEN I GREW UP...
MAYBE THAT CLOUDS MY JUDGEMENT A LITTLE AND MAKES ME SEE WHAT I WANT TO SEE, BUT I'D SAY IT'S HER
WELL, YES
LET ME ASK YOU DO YOU FEEL LIKE SISTER WILMA IS THE SAME AS WHEN YOU USED TO KNOW HER?
TERESA

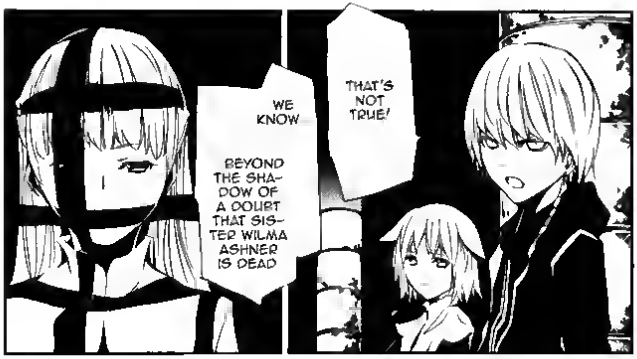
...BUT THAT'S IMPOSSI-BLE.

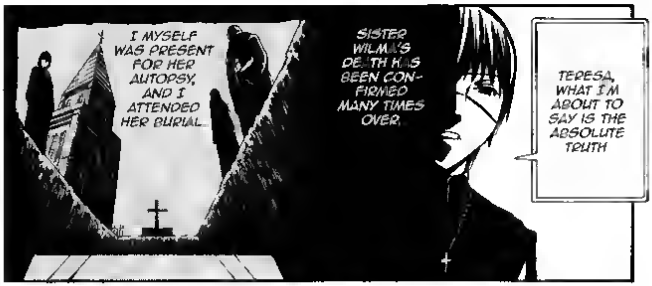
KLIK KLAK

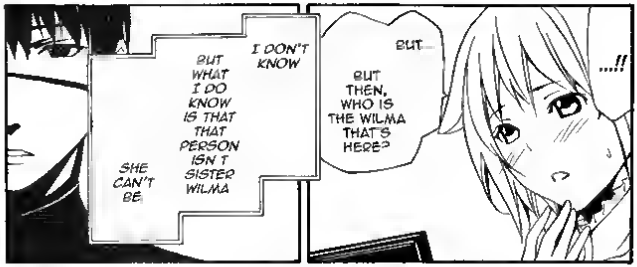

WE'RE HERE TO KILL YOU
MAKE PEACE WITH THE LORD WHILE YOU STILL CAN
NEIT-HER.
HAVE YOU COME TO QUES-TION ME?
OR MAYBE JUST TO TORTURE ME?

SHOCK
OR DID SOME-ONE PUT YOU UP TO THIS?
'CAUSE IF SOME-ONE DID, I'D LOVE TO KNOW WHO
YOU?!
WELL, NOW...
WAS THIS YOUR OWN IDEA?
TOO BAD FOR YOU...
...BUT THE BUILDING'S SURROUN-DED BY SECURITY
step
WE MADE SURE WILMA'S LOCATION GOT LEAKED...
JUST TO SEE WHO'D SHOW UP
AND NOW YOU'RE STUCK...
LIKE A RAT IN A TRAP

rustle
OH, DARE I SAY... SIMPLE CURIOSITY?
COP-PER USER?
BUT WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WHY DIDN'T YOU WAIT UNTIL THE QUESTION-ING TO-MORROW...
AFTER ALL... THIS IS GLOBAL
SOMETHING HUGE HAS STARTED TO MOVE IN THE SHADOWS
MY NAME IS WILMA ASHNER
I AM A NUN OF THE CATHOLIC ORTHODOX CHURCH
SO ANS-WER, IF YOU PLE-ASE
WHO ARE YOU?
AND THIS WO-MAN
IS A PART OF IT


WE KNOW
BEYOND THE SHADOW OF A DOUBT THAT SISTER WILMA ASHNER IS DEAD
THAT'S NOT TRUE!


I MYSELF WAS PRESENT FOR HER AUTOPSY, AND I ATTENDED HER BURIAL.
SISTER WILMA'S DEATH HAS BEEN CONFIRMED MANY TIMES OVER.
TERESA, WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY IS THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH


I DON'T KNOW
BUT WHAT I DO KNOW IS THAT THAT PERSON ISN'T SISTER WILMA
SHE CAN'T BE.
BUT...
BUT THEN, WHO IS THE WILMA THAT'S HERE?
...!!

...!!
THAT IS CORRECT
I DID DIE...
AND MY BODY DID RETURN TO THE EARTH, DUST TO DUST
BUT I WAS RESURRECTED
NOT ONLY MY FLESH...
...BUT MY MIND IS WELL.
MY MEMORIES, MY PERSONALITY...
I AM NOW AS I WAS THEN.
I AM WILMA ASHNER ONCE MORE!
WHAT IS THIS...?!

SSSHUNK
SSSSS
...?!
...
KLIK
KLAK
KLIK
KLAK
glorp

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
EVEN IF WE HAD THAT TECHNOLOGY TODAY
...IT'D MAKE YOU A CLONE!
AND YOUR MEMORIES
NOT EVEN A CLONE COULD HAVE ALL THE MEMORIES AND PERSONALITY ASPECTS OF THE ORIGINAL DOWN TO THE SMALLEST DETAIL!
ALL I CAN SAY IS...
...THAT I OWE ALL THIS TO THE TRUE GOD
AS DOES THE SEVENTH MASK
WE ARE COMRADES IN ARMS, HE AND I
THE...
TRUE GOD?
BUT WHO'S—
WAIT! WHAT'S THAT?!
BA DA DA DA DA DA DA DA DA
AAAHH!!
GHA

ENEMIES!
WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!!
DADADADAD
SNAP
YOU ARE ALL OUT-SIDERS!
KOOM

WHOOOM
THOSE YELLOW FLAMES...
THOSE...!
THE TRUE GOD?
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE ASKING HER ABOUT?
VERY WELL...
I'D SAY YOU'VE GOT THE RIGHT TO KNOW.
IT CAN'T BE...!

THE THEOTOKOS OF TSARITSYN...
WE ARE UNRAVELING ITS MYSTERIES
AND AS ITS SECRETS ARE LAID BARE

TRANSLATION, CLEANING AND TYPESETTING: FINEMANS
WWW.FINEMANS.COM
SCANS FROM: RAW HUNTERS.COM

Chapter 74: The Empty Birdcage

OOTORI...
IS THAT...
IS THAT REALLY YOU...?
OOTORI?!
OF THE ADEPTS? THE SODIUM USER...?!
BUT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD...!
HE DIED I SAW IT

AFTER THAT CHURCH BURNED DOWN...
WE IDENTIFIED YOUR BODY
YOU'RE RIGHT
I DIED THEN.
MY LAST MEMORIES OF THAT MOMENT...
WAS THAT YOU REACHED THE FOURTH STAGE OF YOUR POWER
...AND THEN YOU WON.
YOU BEAT ME AND I WALKED INTO THE FLAMES TO DIE
SO IF OOTORI DIED THERE...
WHO ARE YOU?!
SHINNG
REEEEEE

Noli me tangere.
"TOUCH ME NOT."
SSSSS
"FOR I AM NOT YET ASCENDED TO MY FATHER"
THE GOSPEL OF JOHN, CHAPTER 20, VERSE 17

!!
THAT QUOTE
HRISTOS SAID THAT AFTER HIS RESURRECTION!
SSHNK

WE WERE DEAD
BUT NOW WE ARE REVIVED
CLANG
CLONG
GROAN

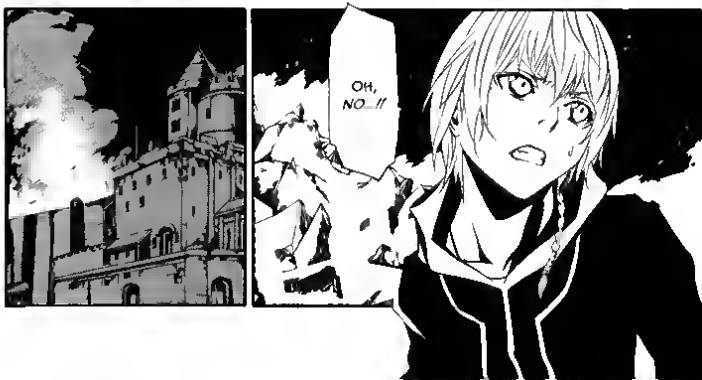
I WONDER, IS THAT WHAT THE THEOSIS PROJECT IS?
MAYBE...
IT IS A MYSTERY PEOPLE HAVE TRIED TO SOLVE FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS
THE RESURRECTION IS THE GREATEST MIRACLE OF THE LORD HRISTOS
...!!
IN TIME, YOU WILL COME TO UNDER-STAND
WHY WE'RE DOING THIS
WHAT WE'RE WORKING FOR
WHY ARE YOU KILLING PROPHETS?
AND NOW IT'S BEEN MADE PART OF THE PROJECT
AND YET
...NOT EVEN THAT IS ALL

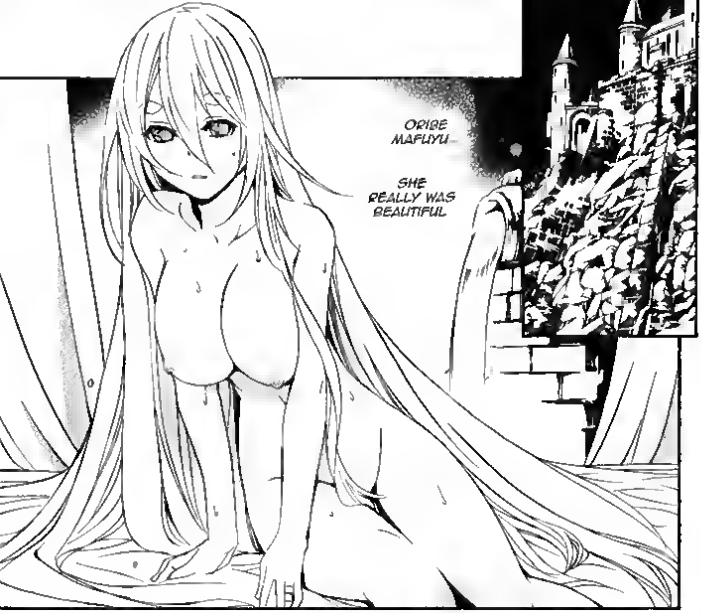
GRAB
ENOUGH
ENOUGH TALK, BOTH OF YOU
WHY NOT JUST TELL US, RIGHT FUCKING NOW?!
AND WHAT WE HOPE TO GAIN
AFTER ALL, WHY SHOULD WE WASTE TIME DEBATING YOU...
WHEN WE CAN JUST BEAT YOU DOWN?
THUMP
I CAN SEE YOU'VE ALL GAINED A GREAT DEAL OF DISCIPLINE
AND AS ALWAYS
I WELCOME EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO STRUGGLE AND GROW.
GGGGG

BUT THIS IS NOT THE TIME
GSHUNK
CRRRACK
CLATTER
CLICK
TICK
...?!
RRRUMMMBLE

BRRMMM
BRRRMMM
WHAT...?!
ARE YOU CERTAIN YOU SHOULD BE HERE RIGHT NOW DOING THIS?
LET ME ASK YOU...
OOTORI!
WAIT!

BOOOM
SOME-THING YOU VERY MUCH NEED TO PROTECT?
ISN'T THERE SOME-THING YOU'RE NEGLEC-TING?


OH, NO...!!


ORIBE MAFUYU
SHE REALLY WAS BEAUTIFUL

EVEN WITH ALL THOSE SCARS
BECAUSE THEY SHOW THAT SHE'S SASHA'S MARIA, AND THEY'VE BEEN FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE
SWEET GIRL
YOUR SKIN IS SMOOTH AS PORCELAIN!

YOU'RE BECOMING SUCH A BEAUTY!
IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IF YOU SHINE EVEN BRIGHTER THAN THE BRIDE TODAY!

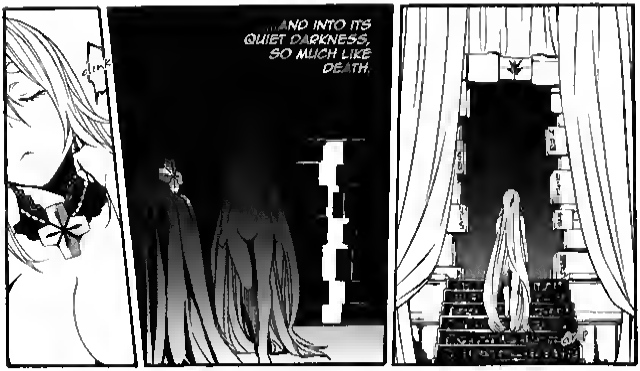
I GREW UP IN A SMALL ORPHANAGE IN ROMANIA.
SIS-TER... YOU REALLY MEAN THAT?!

DONNN
DONNN

I WAS A NORMAL LITTLE GIRL
AT THE TIME, ALL I EVER WANTED WAS TO BECOME A BRIDE
Aaaaa
OH... SHE'S SO PRETTY...!
YOU'LL HAVE TWINS! I SAW THEM!
AN' THEY'LL BE SISTERS!
BUT SOME-TIMES, I HAD VISIONS OF THE FUTURE
I HAD THE POWER OF PREDICTION.
WHEN MY HEART WAS FILLED WITH EMOTION...
THAT'S WHEN THE VISIONS CAME TO ME, THOUGH IT WAS BUT RARELY...

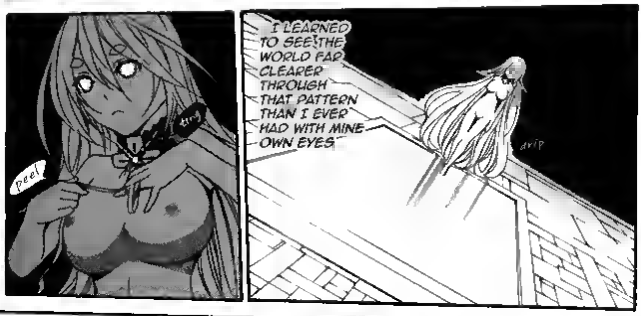
SINCE THEY WERE SO UNPRE-DICTABLE AND OFTEN OF SO LITTLE USE...
I NEVER REALLY PAID THEM MUCH MIND
UNTIL THE PRIESTS OF ATHOS CAME FOR ME.
...AND THEY WERE NEVER ANYTHING I COULD FORCE OR BEND TO MY WILL.
AT LAST WE HAVE FOUND THEE....
...ALL-HOLY PANA-GIA.
rustle
SI...
SIS-TER...!
NO, PLEASE!
I DON'T WANT TO GO WITH THEM!
step back
PANA-GIA...?

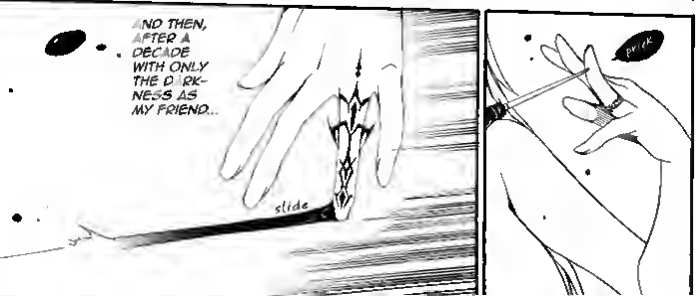
O MOST VENERABLE AMONG LIVING WOMEN
FORGIVE US ANY TRANSGRESSIONS AGAINST THEE UNTIL THIS DAY
AND SO I WAS BROUGHT HERE, TO THIS SANCTUM...
SPLASH


...AND INTO ITS QUIET DARKNESS, SO MUCH LIKE DEATH.

NOOOO!!
CRIS
CLICK
NO...!
NO, I DON'T WANT TO!
MY SIGHT AND HEARING WERE LOCKED AWAY SO THAT MY PREDICTIVE POWER WOULD GROW AND ADAPT TO TAKE THEIR PLACES
ANY INFORMATION I RECEIVED WAS STRICTLY BY TOUCH, THROUGH MY SKIN
AND WHAT KNOWLEDGE I WAS GIVEN WAS ONLY EVER ABOUT ELEMENTAL CIRCUITS

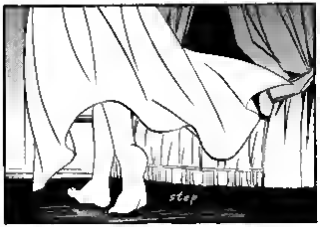
Aaaaaaaaa
AND DURING MY TEN YEARS IN THE BLACK AND THE QUIET
THEY CUT A PATTERN INTO MY BACK


peel
sting
I LEARNED TO SEE THE WORLD FAR CLEARER THROUGH THAT PATTERN THAN I EVER HAD WITH MINE OWN EYES
drip


AND THEN, AFTER A DECADE WITH ONLY THE DARKNESS AS MY FRIEND..
slide
pick

aaaaaaa
...AND WITH THE "MOSES OF SILENCE" ON MY SKIN...
slip
slide
THEY RELEASED ME FROM MY CELL, CALLED ME "PANACIA" AND LOCKED ME IN A CASE.

aaaaaaaa
JUST AS THEY CAUGHT ME
FOR WHEN THE LAST BIRD HATH FLOWN, AND THE CAGE STANDS SUDDENLY EMPTY, THEY KNOWETH WELL TO SWIFTLY CATCH ANOTHER
ching
THIS IS FOR THEE, SASHA
WITH THIS...
THOU MAY WAKE MAFUYU
clink
stay
fall

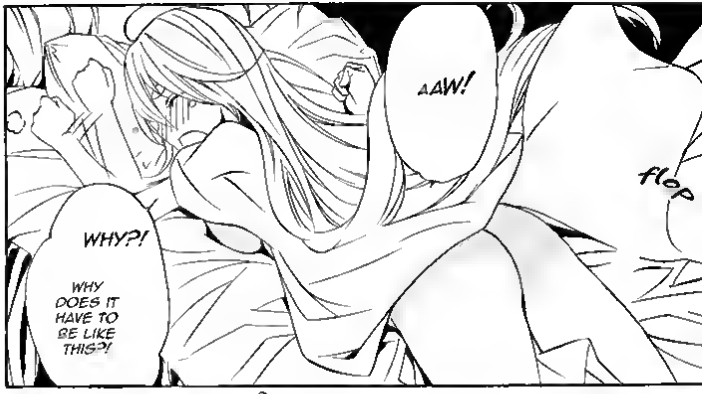


BUT WHY MAKE THIS THING?

TO PLEASE HIM?

OR JUST TO DANGLE IN FRONT OF HIM?

AND WHAT WILL I SAY?

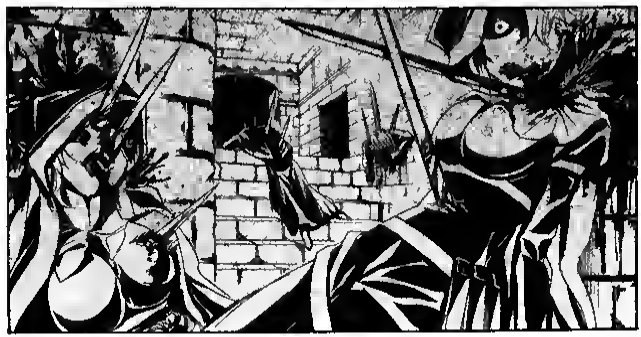


AND FURTHER-MORE...
THIS ISN'T LIKE ME AT ALL...
CLINK
TINK
TINK
TINKLE
AGATHA!?
HANDS
KRSSSH!!

SASHA ALL OF THE SUDDEN?!
WHERE-FORE DIDST THOU...?
TOK TOK
EH?!
SA SASHA?!
GRAB
THANK HEAVEN... THOU ART SAFE!
haah
BUT WHAT...?

INTENSE
JUST NOW...
I RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THOU ART BEING TARGETED!
SO I RUSHED HERE
TO SHIELD THEE FROM HARM!
SA-THUD!
breeze
SA...
SAWEST THOU?
rustle
SORRY...
OH, FIE!
STANDEST THOU OVER THERE!
AND AVERT THINE EYES!
!!?
geez!
hmph!
OF COURSE PANA-GIA

I WOULDN'T WANT TO CAUSE ANY DISCOMFORT
AFTER ALL, I'LL BE HERE WITH THEE... ALL NIGHT LONG...



Chapter 75: The Lamentation of Blood

WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT...

WHO'S THERE...?
AGATHA-SAMA...
SHE'S...

OH...!

CLICK
CLATTER

THOK
THUNK
CRACK

THEY'VE TURNED THIS PLACE INTO A SLAUGHTER-HOUSE
PUPPETS...
CLICK
RATTLE

I'LL DEAL WITH THESE!
SASHA!

WHEN DIDST THOU SUFFER THESE?
WAS IT DURING THE SEMI-FINAL MATCH?

YOU GO FIND THE PANACEA!
LEAP
GOT IT!

AND
THIS BRUISE ON THY CHEEK AS WELL?
THAT?
WELL, THAT S...
NEVER MIND
...OR FROM WHEN I RUSHED OVER HERE
I'M NOT SURE
YEAH, EITHER THAT...
THIS IS
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER TRIED TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS!
I CANNOT HELP IT!
USUALLY THIS IS MAID'S WORK!
HMM
I THINK IT SHOULD BE A BIT TIGHTER
OH MY...
OH DEAR...!
OH...?
THEN...
WHY INSIST ON DOING IT BY THY SELF?
BECAUSE
blush

UN-
HAND
ME.
THIS
ISN'T
DONE
YOU
KNOW I
DON'T
THINK
I WILL.
YOU
CAN
RUN
AWAY
IF YOU
WANT TO
YOUR
CHOICE
WHERE-
FORE
ART
THOU
SO
RUDE?!
SCOUNDREL!
PUSH

rustle
I HAVE...
I HAVE ENCLOSED A CIRCUIT INSIDE THIS STONE...
IT WILL LIFT MAFUYU'S CURSE
OH?
AND YOU MADE IT JUST FOR ME?
and

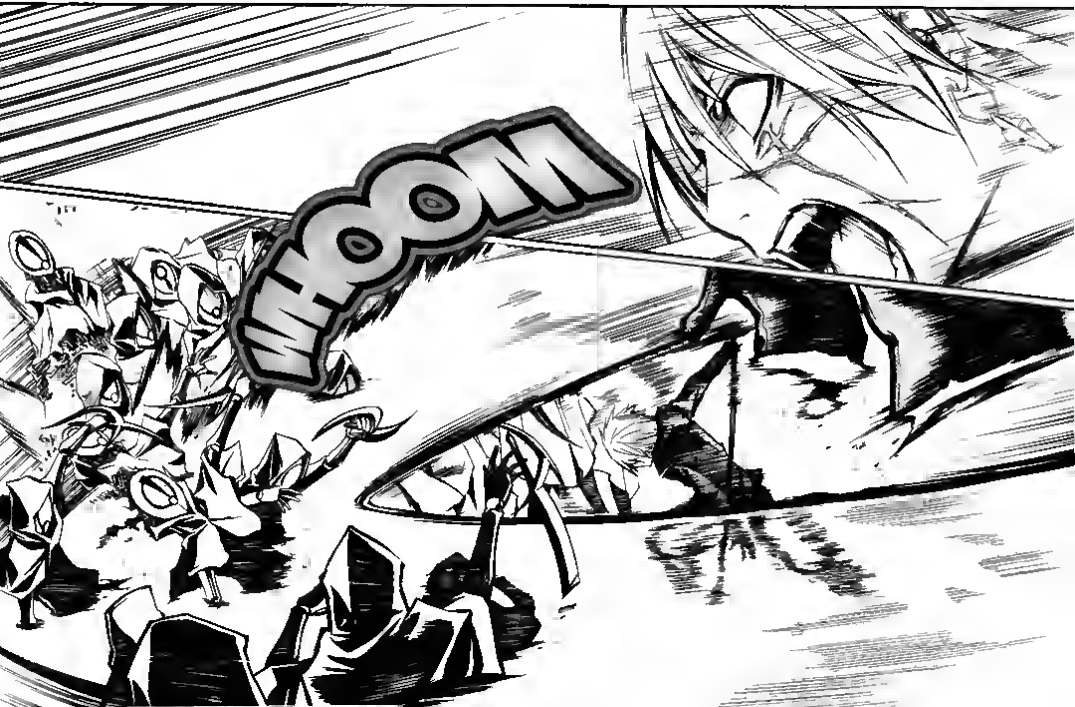
SPLIT

KRAK
SHING
THUK
WHOOSH

...BUT THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT, AND SHE WAS LOST.
TWELVE YEARS AGO, A GIRL NAMED TANIA WAS THE NEXT IN THE HOLY BLOODLINE OF HRISTOS TO BE GIVEN THE TITLE OF PANACEA...

AGATHA...
...IS A REPLACE-MENT?!

...THEY HEARD A RUMOR OF ANOTHER GIRL WHO COULD SEE INTO THE FUTURE
ASATH...
AS THE PRIESTS SCRAMBLED TO HIDE THE LOSS AND THINK OF WHAT TO DO
THEY JUST TOOK A LITTLE GIRL
AND FORCED HER THROUGH THE PROCESS OF BECOMING THE PANAGIA!
EVEN AS AN ORPHAN SHE WOULD'VE BEEN TEN TIMES HAPPIER THAN SHE IS HERE!
THEY TOOK HER BECAUSE OF HER GIFT, AND STOLE HER LIFE!


KABOOM

ART THOU
ART THOU HE?
THIS PLACE...
IT'S LIKE A GILDED CAGE
EVER SINCE THEY FIRST LOCKED ME IN HERE...
I'VE BEEN WISHING FOR SOME-ONE TO COME AND TAKE ME AWAY
GRAB
THAT'S RIGHT
BUT BEFORE I CAN DO THAT...
YOU HAVE SOME-THING I NEED.
shock
BI-THUD
I...
I UNDER-STAND
SINCE IT IS THEE
BI-THUD
flink

AA...!!!
BA-THUD
BA-THUD
Aaaa
I CAN FEEL IT!
I CAN. .
WAIT...!
A A VISION!
I—
BA-THUD

WHAT IS THIS...?
WHAT FUTURE IS THIS?!

CHOKE
!!
SO YOU SAW
YANK
YOU LITTLE IDIOT?!

WELL THEN AS I PROMISED
I'LL SET YOU FREE
AGATHA!!
RUSH

...?!
AGATHA
Lift
AGATHA!!
I MADE HER A WOMAN!
I MADE HER LAST WISH COME TRUE.
WHY DID YOU KILL HER?
WHY?!
I KILL PRO-PHETS!
IT'S WHAT I DO!
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU DO
WHY DID YOU DEFILE HER?

WHAT CAN I SAY?
I GUESS SHE REALLY HAD A THING FOR YOU...
'CAUSE I SWEAR ALL I DID WAS SHOW HER OUR FACE...
AND HER LEGS JUST SWUNG WIDE OPEN!
NOW HER BEING THE PANGEA AND ALL IT WAS HER FIRST TIME...
AND MAYBE THE FORE-PLAY GOT A LITTLE ROUGH...
...BUT YOU KNOW HOW IT IS. ONCE A BITCH IS DEAD, IT'S NOT LIKE SHE CAN SAY NO!
drip
...I'LL KILL YOU.
FOR THIS...
SPAT

REEEEEE
With all my heart
and all my soul
I Will Kill You.
THUNK
THOK
THOK

IF I GET TOO CLOSE
...HE'LL SHUT ME DOWN AGAIN
Пронзайте!
PIERCE!
SKREE
SKRK
KRAAAG KRK
GROAN
DID YOU FORGET ALREADY?
I'M YOU REMEMBER?

OR MAYBE NOT QUITE
AFTER ALL ALL YOU CAN DO IS USE IRON!
AND?
YEAH, YOU KNOW HOW TO CANCEL MY ATTACKS
BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER
NOT IF I SIMPLY OVERWHELM YOU!
SHINNNN
...WITH MORE POWER THAN YOU CAN HANDLE!
FOOM
HAH!
GO FOR IT!
YOU'LL JUST WEAR YOURSELF OUT!

THUNK
THONK
THOK
BY THE WAY SASHA...
SEE THIS?!
ting
SHE MADE IT JUST BEFORE I SHOWED UP!
AGATHA...
...!!
SHE SAID SHE PUT A CIRCUIT IN THIS...
...THAT LL WAKE UP YOUR ORIRE MAFUYU!

WHO ARE YOU?!
WHY DO YOU LOOK LIKE ME?!
CHUAK
THAT'S RIGHT!
THIS IS WHERE YOU STOP FIGHTING...
...OR YOU CAN KISS THIS THING GOOD-BYE!
NOW JUST STAND THERE AND LET ME KILL YOU, "ORIGI-NAL"!
FINE. WHY NOT.
I'LL TELL YOU
I'M JUST AN EMPTY VESSEL OF MEAT...
BUT I WAS BORN WITH YOU IN MIND
...?!
IN FACT, I WAS MEANT TO TAKE YOUR PLACE

VII
I'M...
I'M TRYING, BUT THE CONTROL PANEL'S FROZEN!
IT DOESN'T RESPOND!
CLONG
BEEEP BEEEP
WHAT?!
WHEN DID UNIT 7 GO INTO BIRTH MODE?!
THAT'S NOT RIGHT!
CANCEL IT! QUICKLY!
gloop
FLUSSSH
CHRIST...!
IT NEVER GOT TO THE PNEUMA PHASE...
WHAT DO WE DO?
drip drop
MY UNIT FLUSHED ME OUT WAY TOO SOON. LONG BEFORE I EVER REACHED THE PNEUMA PHASE
I MEAN, HOW COULD I HAVE?
YOU WERE STILL ALIVE
BUT BECAUSE OF SOME KIND OF ERROR...
I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE BORN UNTIL AFTER YOUR DEATH
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN PUT IT BACK IN THE WOMB...
SO, DISPO- S.U., I GUESS...

PNEUMA PHASE...?
WHAT IT SOUNDS LIKE
THESE PEOPLE USE TECHNOLOGY TO SALVAGE THE SOULS OF PEOPLE WHO'VE JUST DIED...
AND BIND THOSE SOULS TO CLONES UNDER THEIR CONTROL
THE BIN-DING IS CALLED *PNEUMA*, AS IN THE BREATH OF GOD
THESE "RESUR-RECTIONS" ARE ALL PART OF THE THEOSIS PROJECT
BUT YOU... YOU MADE THE TIMING GO OUT OF WHACK
SEE THE PROJECT SCHEDULE SAID YOU WERE SUP-POSED TO BE LONG DEAD BY NOW.
BUT YOU JUST KEPT ON TICKING, DION'T YOU?
AND GUESS WHO ENDED UP WITH THE SHITTY END OF *THAT* STICK?
ME BORN WITHOUT A SOUL...
CREAAAK

...BUT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT I WAS MADE TO COMPLETE A TASK...
WHOOSH
...YOU'VE MADE IMPOSSIBLE!
stagger
GHUK!
BADADADADA

IT DOES
IT IS A GENETIC CLONE... AFTER ALL.
BUT AT LE..IST...
...IT STILL HAS THE SW..SER POWER, RIGHT?
VII
THERE REALLY IS NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO DISPOSE OF IT.
...AND THIS ONE'S SHORTER THAN MOST
THE LIFE SPAN OF A CLONE IS SHORT INDEED.
... IT WILL NEVER BE AS STRONG AS ITS PROGE-NITOR
HOW-EVER, DUE TO THE ACCELE-RATED AGING
LET ME PUT IT TO WORK.
NO, NO...
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS FOR A LONG TIME.

CAN YOU HEAR ME?
I HAVE SOME TASKS THAT NEED DOING.
AND I THINK YOU'RE JUST THE ONE TO HELP ME OUT...
BOY NUMBER SEVEN

HE GAVE ME A REASON TO GET UP
A REASON TO KEEP LIVING

BAM
WHAP
KRAK
BUT WHEN I REALIZED I'D LIVE, I GOT DESPERATE!
I COULD FEEL MY OWN DEATH BREATHING DOWN MY NECK!
AND I KNEW THAT TO STAY SANE I NEEDED MORE THAN WORK I NEEDED A DREAM, SOMETHING TO STRIVE TOWARD
POW
AND THEN I FOUND IT. YOU. AND THIS MOMENT, RIGHT HERE!
YOU, SASHA! YOU WERE ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT!
WHAM
YOU... AND TRAINING MY BODY TO BE AS HARD AND FAST AS IT CAN EVER BE...

shudder
...SO I'LL HAVE THE SKILLS AND TECHNIQUE TO FREAK YOU WITH MY OWN BARE HANDS.
TEARS
SHOOSH
GRIP

SO HOW ABOUT I PUT YOU DOWN NOW?
BUT WE REALLY SHOULD START TO WRAP THIS UP
CLUTCH
HELL...
YOU COULD EVEN SAY I HAVE THE RIGHT!
WE'RE PRACTICALLY ONE AND THE SAME!
BAM
AFTER ALL...
FSSHHH

BOOM
AND THERE SHOULD ONLY BE ONE OF US...
...SO THE OTHER HAS NO REASON TO EXIST!
SO I'LL JUST KILL YOU NOW.
AFTER ALL I THINK IT'S THE ONLY WAY EITHER ONE OF US WILL GET ANY PEACE!
?!
REEEEEEEEE
SPLASH

KRRRRING
HA HA HA!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU EVEN DOING?
YOU LOOK RIDICU-LOUS!
TOK
TOK
SSSH!!!
KRRING
SSSH!!!
THIS IS THE END, SASHA!
SPAK

WHY WON'T YOU GET IT?!
IRON CAN'T HURT ME!
I'M—
THOK
?!
THK
THOK
!!.

WHAT ?
ICE?!
aaaaaa
KRRRRRR
NOT ICE...
IT'S IRON...
BUT FLASH-FROZEN...
...SO I CAN'T...

THIS ONE
...I MADE WITH AGATHA'S TEARS

WHAT THE FU-
SRUSH!

THE CIRCUIT YOU MADE...
I TAKE IT NOW WITH DEEPEST GRATITUDE
THANK YOU...
...AGATHA.
TRANSLATION, CLEANING AND TYPESETTY NO- FINEARTS
WWW.OHJASEC.TK
SCANS FROM RAW HUNTERS.COM

Chapter 76: The Way Forward

...AND MAY HRISTOS, OUR TRUE GOD, SHOW US MERCY...
...HE WHO IS IMMORTAL KING HAS AUTHORITY OVER BOTH THE LIVING...
...AND THE DEAD.
THE LONE CELEBRATION OF THE PUNGHA'S DAY OF BIRTH ENDED WITH HER FUNERAL.
A BITTER SURPRISE
MAY HE NOW GRANT REST TO OUR SISTER AGATHA...
...WHO SLEEPS IN A PLACE OF LIGHT, A PLACE OF LIFE RENEWED, AND A JOYOUS PLACE
LET HER TAKE HER PLACE AMONG THE HOLY SAINTS, AND IN YOUR END-LESS LOVE...
...LET HER LIVE AGAIN.

THE PANGEA WAS MURDERED.
IN ALL OF THOSE HISTORY THAT HAS NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE.
TRYING TO KEEP THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL, THE BISHOPS SPREAD THE WORD THAT THE PANGEA WAS JUST ILL.
...BY HIS GOODNESS AND COMPASSION AS OUR MERCIFUL GOD
EVERLASTING BE YOUR MEMORY.
ONLY THE FEW OF US WHO KNOW THE TRUTH...
...ATTEND HER SERVICE
Amen.

IF ONLY I'D BEEN FASTER YOU'D STILL BE ALIVE
I'M SO SORRY AGATHA
YOU SAVED MAFUYU...
AND I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO THANK YOU ENOUGH
ONLY A SHORT WHILE BEFORE SHE DIED...
...THE PANEL CREATED A CIRCUIT THAT REMOVED MY CURSE.

rustle
Aaaaaaaaaaa
MAFUYU!
U UNH

MY NAME IS ORIBE M.FUYU...
...AND IN A WAY, I WAS JUST BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE.
O LORD...
OUR SISTER RETURNS TO YOU FOR HER FINAL REST
AND WE SHALL NUMBER HER AMONG THE JUST AND THE HOLY
EVER-LASTING BE YOUR MEMORY, O SISTER WHO IS WORTHY OF BEING SO BLESSED
EVER-LASTING BE YOUR MEMORY.

EVER-
LASTING
BE YOUR
MEMORY
EVER-
LASTING
BE YOUR
MEMORY

THE PRINCE'S DEATH HIT SASHA HARD...
...AND WHILE I WASN'T THERE WHEN IT HAPPENED...

...IT HAD A BIG EFFECT ON ME AS WELL.
THANKS FOR COMING, YOU GUYS!
BUT REALLY MUTSUMI
ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULDN'T BE AT THE HOSPITAL?
BAH!
NO WAY, I FEEL AWE-SOME!
FLEX
what a girl!
BUT
...WHAT ABOUT YOU AND THAT CURSED CIRCUIT?
ARE YOU OKAY NOW?
YEAH!
IT'LL JUST TAKE A WHILE BEFORE I CAN GO BACK TO BEING SASHA'S MARIA
MAAM'S ORDERS!

STILL
IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU BACK ON YOUR FEET!
AND I DON'T THINK YOU NEED TO WORRY ABOUT SASHA
HE'S JUST IN A FUNK RIGHT NOW BUT HE'LL SNAP OUT OF IT!
I DON'T THINK THAT'S ENTIRELY CORRECT
HE'S BLAMING HIMSELF FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO SAVE THE PANAGIA
YEAH
AND LOOKING AT HOW ALL OF THAT WENT DOWN IT SORT OF FEELS LIKE SHE DIED SO I COULD WAKE UP
LIKE WE EXCHANGED LIVES
I CAN'T HELP IT BUT I FEEL LIKE I'M RESPONSIBLE IN SOME WAY
SHIT
YEAH ME TOO
THAT FAKE SASHA PSYCHO REALLY GOT ME GOOD
I KEEP THINKING HOW IF ONLY I'D SEEN HIM FOR WHAT HE WAS
EVERYTHING WOULD'VE TURNED OUT COMPLETELY DIFFERENT
THEN MAYBE
sigh

YOU SNAP OUT OF IT!
WHAT THE HELL...?!
...GHA?!
SLAP
HEY, WHERE DO YOU GET OFF CALLING ME STUPID?!
SO NO USE CRYIN ABOUT IT! LET'S JUST MOVE ON!
YOU GOT TRICKED CAUSE YOU'RE AN IDIOT, AN THAT'S ALL!
WAVE
I'M SORRY, BUT I HAVE NOTHING GOOD TO SAY ABOUT YOU AT ALL
TERESA-CHAN, YOU DON'T THINK I'M AN IDIOT, RIGHT?! SAY SOMETHING NICE ABOUT ME!
YOU... WAIT. YOU REALLY THINK YOU AREN'T A TOTAL IDIOT?
THAT'S JUST MEAN!
YOU'RE HORRIBLE!
GAAH! AND SHE DIDN'T HESITATE EVEN FOR A SECOND!

I'M SURROUNDED BY DEMONS...!
WHAT ARE THEY TEACHING YOU AT SQOLE, ANYWAY?!
BIG MAAM FIELD STUDIES?!
GRR?!
SNAP
!!
HAHAHA
BUT ANYWAY...
INSTEAD
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE SULKING OVER WHAT MIGHT'VE BEEN!
WE NEED TO FOCUS ON THE NEW PLAYER ON THE BOARD!
YOU'RE RIGHT
THE THEOSIS PROJECT
THE WAY IT LOOKS RIGHT NOW...
...THOSE PEOPLE JUST MIGHT BE AN EVEN BIGGER THREAT THAN THE ADEPTS

WHAT LITTLE I'VE HEARD ABOUT THEM SOUNDS COMPLETELY INSANE
THAT THEY'RE SOMEHOW ACTUALLY BRINGING DEAD PEOPLE BACK TO LIFE AND SEEM TO DO IT ALL AT RANDOM...
RIGHT NOW, THAT'S PRETTY MUCH ALL I KNOW ABOUT THEM TOO
I WONDER WHAT YOUR BOSSES THINK ABOUT ALL THIS
AS DO I.
AND I BELIEVE
THEY'RE PROBABLY DISCUSSING THE THEOSIS PROJECT AS WE SPEAK
AN UN-THINKABLE TRAGEDY HAS COME TO PASS
THE ALL-HOLY PANAGIA, SHE OF THE SACRED BLOOD-LINE OF BETHANIA— —MURDERED!
INSIDE HER OWN SANCTUM HERE AT MOUNT ATHOS!

GONE
WE BELIEVE THAT WHOEVER MURDERED THE GIRL TOOK THE CIRCUIT AS WELL.
THE PANDORA HAD IT ON HER BODY.
WHERE IS IT NOW?!
WHAT ABOUT HER HIGH ANCIENT CIRCUIT, THE "MOSES OF SILENCE"?
THIS DISASTER FALLS ON YOU...
...ARCHBISHOP SMIRNOFF.
BRING IN A CREST-MAKER TO EXAMINE HER!
WE MUST BE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN!
IT DOES.
BUT I MUST SAY I NEVER EXPECTED *THIS*, MUCH LESS THAT THE KILLER WOULD BE IMPERSONATING ONE OF YOUR QWASER SUBJECTS.
ARCHBISHOP MANSORY

ARCHBISHOP SMIRNOFF, WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO REPORT FROM YOUR EXAMINATION OF THE ASSASSIN'S CORPSE?
ONLY THAT IT APPEARS
HIS FACE HAD BEEN ALTERED THROUGH EXTENSIVE PLASTIC SURGERY TO RESEMBLE YOUR QWASER
NEVER MIND THE ASSASSIN WE HAVE TO FIND OUT WHO SENT HIM!
WHAT ABOUT THIS "THEOSIS PROJECT" I'VE HEARD MENTIONED?
ISN'T THAT A TRAIL WE SHOULD FOLLOW?!
ABSOLUTELY NOT
THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS THE THEOSIS PROJECT
IT IS MERELY A RUSE MEANT TO OBSTRUCT US WITH LIES AND CONFUSION
NO, THE TRUE CULPRITS BEHIND THE PANABIA'S MURDER...

BECAUSE MY FAITHFUL SERVANTS IN METEORA MANAGED TO FOLLOW HIS TRAIL BACK TO WHERE HE CAME FROM...
BUT AT LEAST IN THIS FORTUNE SMILES UPON US.
...AND IN DOING SO, THEY'VE ROOTED OUT THE LOCATION OF ONE OF THE ADEPTS'S GREAT STRONG-HOLDS!
...ARE IN FACT OUR MOST BITTER ENEMIES, THE ADEPTS!
INDEED IT'S BEEN CONFIRMED THAT ONE OF THEIR APOSTLES EVEN INFIL-TRATED THE PANAGIA'S CELEBRATION!
BUT THE VERY HOLIEST OF BLOOD THAT OF THE PANAGIA AND HENCE OF HRISTOS HIM-SELF WAS SPILLED IN OUR HOUSE!
AND NOW IT CALLS OUT!
IT SHAMES ME TO SAY THIS...
BROTHERS...
AN ER... OF ENMITY THAT HAS LASTED FOR MORE THAN A THOUSAND YEARS LIES BE-TWEEN US AND THE ADEPTS.
NOW, AT LAST, THE TASK HAS BEEN LAID UPON US...
...TO END IT!
IT CALLS FOR VENGEANCE!
It calls for a Holy War!

MA'AM!
WHAT IS THIS TALK ABOUT WAR?!
SLAM
AGATHA WAS KILLED BY A MEMBER OF THE THEOSIS PROJECT!
SO WHY THE HELL ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT GOING AFTER THE ADEPTS?!
SASHA
YOUR REPORT WAS HANDED AS-IS STRAIGHT TO THE TOP
FOR SOME REASON...
THE BISHOPS DON'T SEEM TO BELIEVE YOU
THEY'VE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE THEOSIS PROJECT DOESN'T EXIST...
THEY...
THEY WHAT?!
BUT OOTORI AND WILMA...
I SAW THEM WITH MY OWN EYES!
THEY WERE RIGHT THERE!
I TALKED TO THEM!

NOW, FOR ALL OUR SAKES...
KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH AND LISTEN CHILD
THE BISHOPS DON'T BELIEVE YOU
WE DO!
SMACK
GRAB
...!!
I SEE
AND WE HAVE FRESH SCORES WITH THE ADEPTS
SOME OF THE BISHOPS MAY BE USING THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SETTLE THEM
THIS ENTIRE SITUATION WITH THE THEOSIS PROJECT IS STILL FAR TOO VAGUE TO MAKE ANY SENSE...
THE BISHOPS HAVE REQUESTED THE PRESENCE OF YOU AND LIZZIE BOTH.
!!
WHAT'S MORE SASHA
...IN THE FIGHTING THAT IS TO COME...

BUT THE PLANNING HAS ONLY STARTED SO IT'S STILL POSSIBLE TO DECLINE
WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?
YOU SAID
THEY WANTED LIZZIE TOO
DOES THAT MEAN TERESA'S GOING AS WELL?
OF COURSE
HOW-EVER
MAPLIYU IS STILL TOO WEAK TO BE SENT INTO BATTLE
SO FOR THIS EX-CUR-SION
...YOU WILL BE ASSIGNED ANOTHER MARIA.
CLANG
CLONG
CLATTER
KYAA!
CREAK
E-EXCUSE ME
PLEASE ENTER!

OW THAT REALLY HURT...!
HAHA! MIRIAM I CAN SEE YOUR UNDER-WEAR!
U-UN... ...DER...
...WAAAH?!
FLAP

splat
I THINK IT'S TIME YOU GOT UP AND INTRODUCED YOURSELF
A-AT ONCE, MA'AM!
snag
HAAH...
WELL HERE SHE IS
YOUR TEMPORARY SUBSTITUTE MARIA
PLEASE PAY ME NO MIND!
I'LL MAKE SURE TO DO BETTER IN THE FUTURE!
A LOT BETTER...
EHEHE...

deep breath
pat pat
NOW FOR THE GREETING...
JUST TAKE IT SLOW AND DON'T PANIC!
FINALLY UPRIGHT!
WE'RE MAKING PROGRESS!
Y-YES !
MY NAME IS MIRIAM...
AND I'LL DO MY BEST!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU!
I'M NOT SURE WHAT TO DO
I NEED TO THINK ABOUT IT

IT'S A BIG DECISION.
I UNDER-STAND
SASHA DO YOU REMEM-BER WHAT JIITA SAID?
ABOUT WHERE TOMO IS?
YEAH
THEY'RE KEEPING HER IN A PLACE THEY CALL "MAGNOLIA"

SASHA
IF YOU'RE GOING, I WANT TO GO TOO!
I NEED TO BE THERE!
THAT'S WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT!
THIS RETALI-ATION THE BISHOPS ARE PLAN-NING...
YOU THINK MAYBE THAT'S THE PLACE THEY'RE GOING TO HIT...?
I KNOW...
BUT...!!
SASHA...
WANNA COME TO MY ROOM?
HEY

Приятнго аппетита!
ENJOY THE MEAL!
sparkle
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I MADE THIS
CLAK
Это же…
THIS IS…
борщ!!
BORSCHT!!
YES…
I WAS SHOCKED BY HOW GOOD IT WAS.
DO YOU REMEMBER?
IT WAS ONLY THANKS TO MY BORSCHT…
…THAT YOU LET ME CALL YOU "SASHA"!
HEY…

AND NOW IT'S EVEN BETTER!
AGAIN YOUR BORSCHT...
IT MAKES MY HEART TREMBLE!
SITTING WITH YOU LIKE THIS...
IT BRINGS BACK MEMO-RIES
HOW IT WAS WHEN WE WERE ALL TO-GETHER
WHEN TOMO WAS HERE...
...AND TERESA-CHAN
AND LIZZIE...
MIYURI
AND KATJA AND HANA

AND HOW MUCH FUN WE HAD !
IT'S BECAUSE OF ME....
...THAT HAPPINESS WAS TAKEN FROM YOU.
clench
IT STARTED WITH OLY...
THEN YOU AND TOMO...
TERESA...
AND I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY OTHERS
AND NOW ABATHA...!
grit
EVERY-ONE I WANT TO PROTECT!
EVERY-ONE THAT BECOMES IMPORTANT TO ME. I

manga-zone.org

!!
A CONCEITED LITTLE BOY!
SASHA YOU CAN'T JUST DECIDE ON YOUR OWN TO CARRY EVERYONE ELSE ON YOUR SHOULDERS!
squeeze
WHEN WE FIRST MET...
...YOU SAID THAT EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN F. TE.
AND HARSH AS YOU WERE BACK THEN
IN THAT, I THINK YOU WERE PROBABLY RIGHT.
WE ALL HAVE TO CHOOSE
WHERE TO GO, WHAT TO DO...

...AND THAT MEANS YOU HAVE TO LET THE ONES YOU LOVE MAKE CHOICES ON THEIR OWN, AND NOT FEEL LIKE IT'S ALL ON YOU IF THINGS MAYBE DON'T TURN OUT SO WELL!
I KNOW YOU FEEL CONCERN FOR YOUR FRIENDS, AND YOU WANT TO HELP THEM...
...AND THAT'S A GOOD THING!
I FEEL LIKE THAT TOO ALL THE TIME!
FOR TOMO, AND FOR EVERY-ONE
BUT SOMETIMES IT CAN BE TOO MUCH AND MAKE IT HARD NOT JUST FOR YOUR-SELF BUT FOR THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU
BUT I KNOW YOU DO IT NOT BECAUSE YOU THINK YOU KNOW BETTER, BUT BECAUSE YOU CARE SO MUCH AND YOU WORRY!
AND REALLY, THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT YOU!

AS ALWAYS WHEN YOU ØE NOT WITH ME TO SHOW ME THE WAY...
I'M JUST STUMBLING AROUND IN THE DARK
MAFUYU
I'VE DECIDED I'M GOING
?!
rise
puff
nod

grab
COME TO ME
SASHA
MAFUYU...
rustle
pull

SASHA
I WANT YOU TO TAKE MY SOMA
NOW
BUT
ARE YOU SURE?
AREN'T YOU—
I'M FINE!
AND SASHA, BEFORE YOU GO...
I WANT YOU TO MAKE ME YOURS

whoooosh
KYAA!
IT'S ALMOST HERE...
?

THE STORM

TRANSLATION, CLEANING AND TYPESETTING BY PINEMANS
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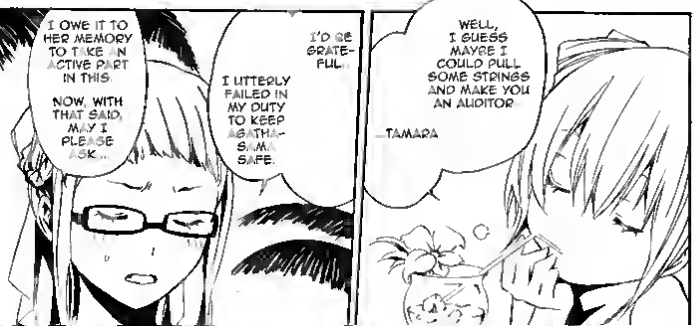
Chapter 77: Innocence

GREECE
ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF ATHENS
SO
THE COMING OFFENSIVE
rub

YOU'RE SAYING
YOU WANT IN ON IT?


I OWE IT TO HER MEMORY TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THIS.
NOW, WITH THAT SAID, MAY I PLEASE ASK...
I'D BE GRATEFUL.
I UTTERLY FAILED IN MY DUTY TO KEEP AGATHA-SAMA SAFE.
WELL, I GUESS MAYBE I COULD PULL SOME STRINGS AND MAKE YOU AN AUDITOR.
—TAMARA

WHY DO I HAVE TO DRESS LIKE THIS?!
...WHY?!
THIS, THIS GET-UP...
I LOOK LIKE SOME KIND OF HUSSY!
C'MON YOU WEAR THAT THING LIKE A PRO!
LET'S GET A CROWD GOING!! I'LL BE YOUR HYPE-GIRL!
TAMARA
I'M DRY
ANOTHER PLEASE
YOU MEAN G-G-GO OVER THERE?!
LIKE THIS?!
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO BE AN AUDITOR...?

SHE IS A TERRIBLE PERSON!
I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT WHOEVER TOOK CARE OF HER UPBRINGING ACTUALLY MEANT TO RAISE A HEARTLESS SADIST!
Hmph...
WELL, YOU'RE HAVING FUN KATJA-SAMA
HMM
JUDGING BY THE SUNLIGHT

...IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE WE'RE ALMOST IN THE SAME PLACE...
...AS I WAS BACK THEN...
...WHERE THE LIGHT ONLY REACHED INTO THE DARK HEART OF THE FOREST AT NOON
KATJA-SI-MA...
THAT GIRL...
TAMARA'S GETTING ATTENTION NOW, ALRIGHT
THE BAD KIND

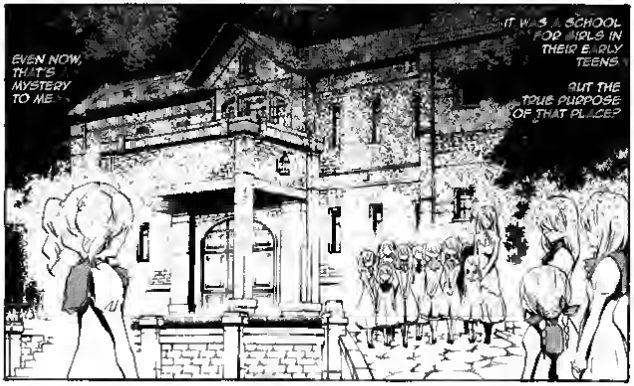
SLAM
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE FUCK YOU'RE THINKING—
—CUTTING IN ON MY TURF LIKE THAT!
THIS HOTEL IS MINE!
SHUKIN
I'M NOT A A PUH-PUH-PROS—
gulp!
I
I'M
OH, SURE YOU'RE NOT!
WHAT, YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE A CIVILIAN—
sss
КУДА!!
WOULD PARADE AROUND LIKE THIS IN A FAMILY PLACE?!
slide
snip

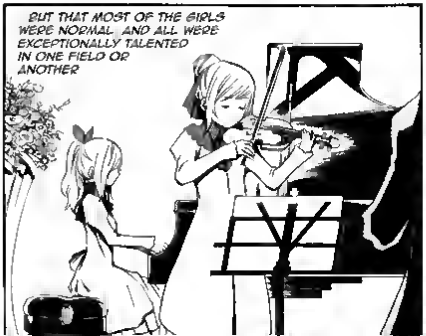
COME ON JONA
YOU GOTTA BE CAREFUL WITH THAT
IF YOU GOT A LITTLE SOME-THING FOR ME...!
FINE, I'LL LET YOU GO...
SHE... SHE'S AN ADDICT...?
I'M NOT PICKY, JUST GIVE ME WHAT YOU GOT...
AND I WON'T EXPAND YOUR BUSINESS FOR YOU RIGHT HERE AND NOW!
tap tap
OKAY YOU CAN STOP THIS RIGHT NOW
SHE'S NOT A PROSTITUTE
IN FACT, I CAN 100% GUARANTEE YOU THAT SHE'S A VIRGIN
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
step

HAA!
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
WHAM
SWOSH
STAB
SWIP
TWITCH
MAGDALENE...!

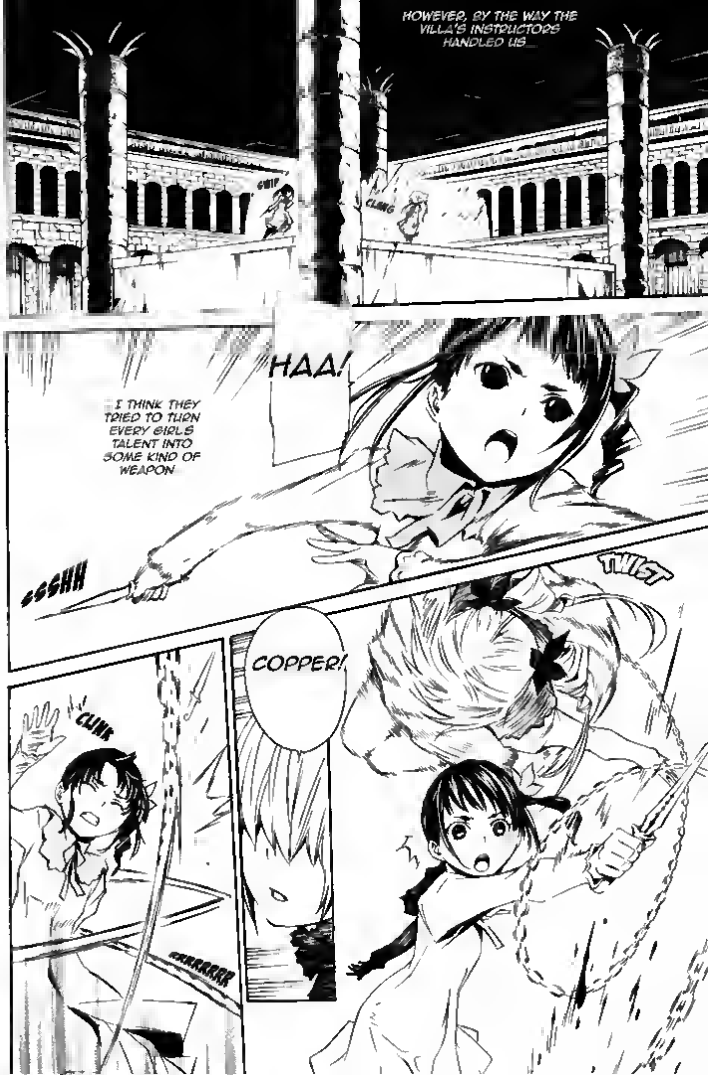
YOUR EXCELLENT KNIFE-ARM...
KLIK KLAK KLIK
YOU'VE LET IT GO RUSTY...
...JONA
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
BUT TO FIND YOU IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...?
HARDLY BEFITTING A SURVIVOR OF THE VILLA, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?
...?!
KLAK
ROUGE?!
"THE VILLA"...?
YOU!
YOU CAN'T BE

WE FIRST MET IN THE MANSION IN THE FOREST.
WE ONLY EVER KNEW IT AS "THE VILLA."


IT WAS A SCHOOL FOR GIRLS IN THEIR EARLY TEENS.
BUT THE TRUE PURPOSE OF THAT PLACE?
EVEN NOW, THAT'S MYSTERY TO ME.


BUT THAT MOST OF THE GIRLS WERE NORMAL, AND ALL WERE EXCEPTIONALLY TALENTED IN ONE FIELD OR ANOTHER

I DO KNOW THAT THEY KNEW OF AND ALLOWED QWASERS


HOWEVER, BY THE WAY THE VILLA'S INSTRUCTORS HANDLED US...
CHIP
CLIMB
HAA!
...I THINK THEY TRIED TO TURN EVERY GIRL'S TALENT INTO SOME KIND OF WEAPON
SSSHH
TWIST
COPPER!
CLINK
GRRRRRRR

KLAK
-.-
stagger
WHIP
AH!
PLEASE SURRENDER
AND SWEAR TO OBEY ME
BUT THAT'S REALLY ALL I KNOW

КУДА!!
WHIP
NO!
WHIP
WHIP
WHIP
YOU'RE BEING FOOLISH
SURRENDER NOW
NOW, NOW, ENOUGH OF THAT!
clap!
THAT'S JUST A WASTE
IT WON'T YIELD ANY DESIRABLE RESULTS AT ALL

NO. THE ABSOLUTE RULER MUST LEARN TO DO VIOLENCE TO THE HEART
TO THAT END
...MERE PHYSICAL VIOLENCE WILL NEVER BE GOOD ENOUGH.
YOU SEEK TO RULE OTHERS?
TO BE A QUEEN, IF YOU WILL?
WHY IS THAT, PLEASE, INSTRUCTOR GIJOU?
step
BUT FOR THAT TO HAP-PEN...
...AND WITH THIS, YOU'VE CONVINCED ME THAT I CAN MOLD YOU INTO ONE OF MY TRUE MASTER-PIECES!
pull
EXAC-TLY!
MY, BUT I KNEW YOU HAD A TALENT
YOU MEAN TO MAKE THEM FEEL THINGS LIKE FEAR? AND SHAME?
...ALL THE KINDS OF FEAR AND SHAME
SHE WISHES TO CAUSE HER SUB-JECTS
...THE WOULD-BE QUEEN MUST FIRST COME TO KNOW AND LOVE INTIMATELY AND PASSIO-NATELY...

AT THAT TIME, MY @WASED POWER HAD ONLY JUST AWOKEN IN ME
THAT'S WHY I WAS SENT TO THE VILL...
AND I HAD CAUSED SOME INCI-DENTS
GIJOU...
ONE DAY, I WILL KILL YOU.

AT LEAST SOMEONE HERE IS HAPPY...
HAHA!
YOU'RE TICKLING ME!
HERE BARON!
HERE BOY!
affff
Pant
BUT A PUPPY AT THE VILLA?
tot tot
Pant Pant
!!
DON'T BULLY HIM!
IF THERE'S ONE THING I HATE...
...IT'S A FAWNING DOG!
GET AWAY FROM ME!
DIS-GUS-TING!
BAF
swipe

PLEASE, YOU MUSTN'T BULLY HIM!
PLEASE!
YOU'RE QUITE BRAVE, AREN'T YOU?
IN A WAY
HE'S A STRAY, AND I FOUND HIM
aff!!
IS THIS YOUR DOG?
aff!
I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ME
SO YOU CAN GO AND TELL THEM IF YOU WANT
NO...
IF I CAN PROTECT BARON...
AREN'T YOU AFRAID?
?
WHAT IF THE INSTRUCTORS FIND OUT?
THEY'LL PUNISH YOU.

THE GIRL LIVED IN THE VILLA

AND DESPITE ALL HER CONSIDERABLE EFFORTS SHE ALWAYS ENDED UP DEAD LAST IN EVERYTHING THEY HAD US DO.
SIMPLY BECAUSE SHE NEVER SHOWED ANY PARTICULAR TALENT IN ANYTHING THE VILLA COULD USE
SHE DID VERY POORLY IN HER STUDIES
WHAP!
AND SO AS OUR NATURE DICTATES, SHE WAS ALSO THE CONSTANT VICTIM OF BULLYING BY THE OLDER GIRLS
YOU KNOW, BLANC, I COULD SWEAR I HEARD IT SOME-WHERE
THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S ON CLEANING DUTY THIS WEEK, NOT ME
OH I'M SO SORRY I THINK I FORGOT
YOU REALLY ARE USELESS, AREN'T YOU?

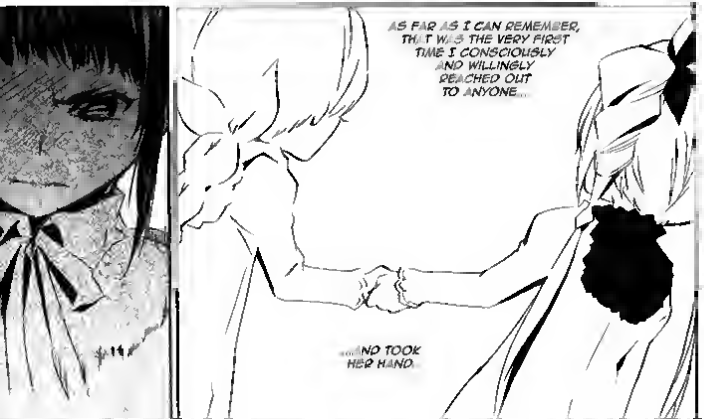
trip
step step
BEFORE AN INSTRUCTOR FINDS OUT!
WELL, HURRY UP!
THUD
step
GOOD-NESS
DO YOU HONESTLY BELIEVE A GIRL WHO FORCES HER DUTIES ONTO OTHERS
HAS ANY ROOM TO TALK LIKE THAT?
REALLY, YOU'RE NOT JUST USELESS
YOU MUST BE LAZY AS WELL, JUST LYING THERE!
tumph
EHE...
SORRY, I DION'T SEE...

ROUGE...

COME ON
STAND UP
BLANC

GOOD.
NO FROM
NOW ON,
NONE OF
YOU WILL
BOTHER
BLANC
AGAIN.

BECAUSE IF YOU DO...
...I WILL HAVE ALL OF YOU CRAWLING IN THE DIRT CRYING AND BEGGING FOR MERCY


AS FAR AS I CAN REMEMBER, THAT WAS THE VERY FIRST TIME I CONSCIOUSLY AND WILLINGLY REACHED OUT TO ANYONE...
...AND TOOK HER HAND...
19

YOU HAVE TO FIGHT THEM FOR IT AND TAKE IT BY FORCE
IF YOU WANT TO TRULY HAVE POWER OVER SOMEONE
aff!

CONQUERED MY HEART WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING AT ALL
YET THIS SWEET GIRL, WHO SEEMED UTTERLY INCAPABLE OF VIOLENCE OR CRUELTY

TO MAKE SOMEONE YIELD
IN ALL HER INNOCENCE SHE SHOWED ME ANOTHER WAY THAN THE ONE I KNEW
aff
HAH..!
SEE, I PONP

NOW
WE'VE GOT A NEW FRIEND!
AND SHE'LL PROTECT YOU TOO!
SEE? HE'S SO HAPPY!

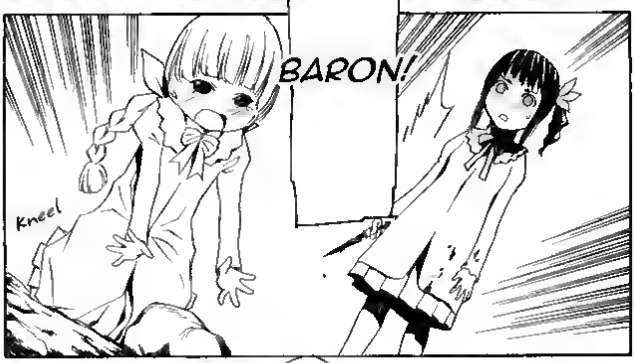
AND THIS IS WHERE I MADE THE FIRST GREAT MISTAKE OF MY LIFE

BECAUSE JUST AS I HAD DISMISSED BLANC'S COMPASSION AS WEAKNESS EARLIER
I STILL DISMISSED JONA'S THIRST FOR REVENGE NEVER KNOWING HOW DEEP IT RAN, NEVER REALIZING THAT IT COULD PUT HER ON DANGEROUS PATHS

AS SHOU WOULD'VE SAID, I WAS STILL IMMATURE
BUT THEY WERE STILL UNKNOWN TO ME
THE MORE SUBTLE SHIFTS OF THE HUMAN MIND IS SOMETHING ANY QUEEN MUST MASTER

KRRR
...AND THE RESULT WAS TRAGEDY
rustle
AAH!!
BITE!
YII

?!

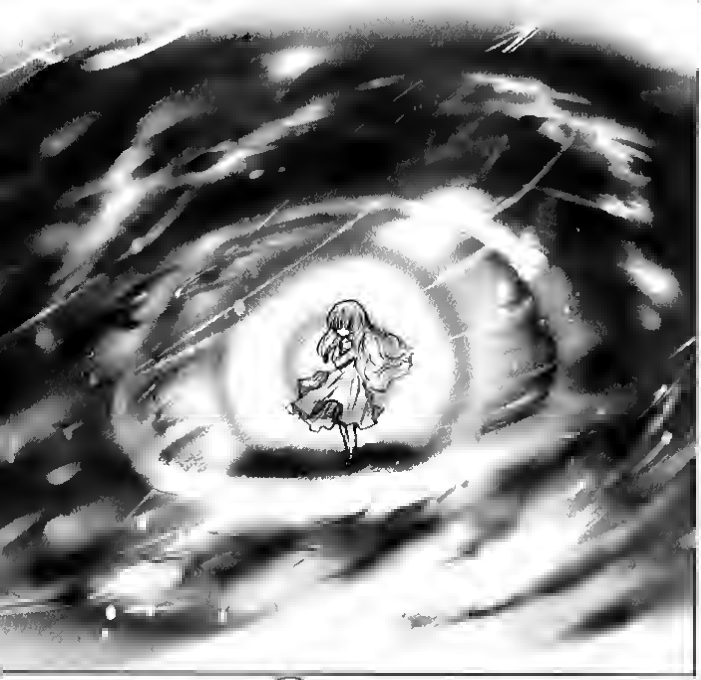

BARON!
Kneel

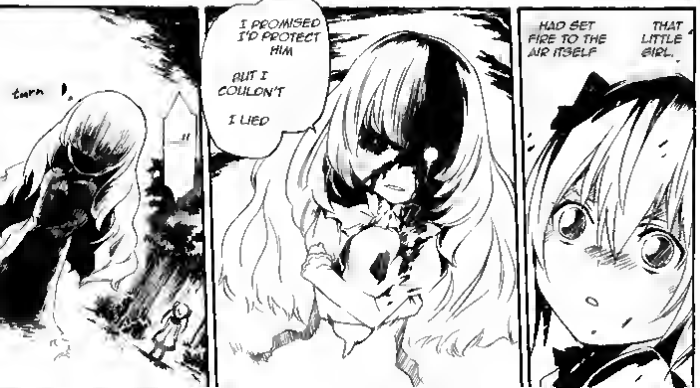
BARON!
OPEN YOUR EYES!
NO
NO, NOT BARON!
wag
BARON, WAKE UP!

I'M SO SORRY!
I'M SO SORRY!
I'M SO SORRY, BARON!
I'M SO SORRY!
IT... IT'S HIS OWN FAULT!
I JUST WANTED TO GET EVEN!
THEN YOUR STUPID DOG, IT BIT ME!
DON'T TRY TO PUT THIS ON ME!
I JUST WANTED TO SEE WHAT YOU WERE HIDING!
DON'T...
BRING HIM BACK TO ME!
YOU BRING HIM BACK!
STAY AWAY!
SLICE

AAAAH!
OH, IT HURTS
OH, IT HURTS
OH, BARON
OH, IT HURTS
stumble
I LIED
I LIED
I SAID I'D PROTECT YOU
I'M SO SORRY, BARON
OH, IT HURTS...!
!!

FWOOM
KYAAH!!
BY THE TIME I GOT THERE...
...IT WAS JUST TOO LATE
crackle
TOO LATE TO DO ANY THING
BLANC?!




THAT LITTLE GIRL...
HAD SET FIRE TO THE AIR ITSELF
I PROMISED I'D PROTECT HIM
BUT I COULDN'T
I LIED
turn

SEEING YOU AGAIN...
...REALLY BRINGS BACK A LOT OF MEMO-RIES

YEAH, WELL, CAN'T SAY I'VE GOT ANY GOOD ONES OF THAT PLACE...

IF YOU SELL THIS NECK-LACE
YOU CAN GET RID OF YOUR PIMP
...AND STILL HAVE ENOUGH TO START A NEW LIFE SOME-WHERE
clack

click

KISS

...!!
THANK YOU...
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
I HAD NO IDEA YOU HAD SUCH COMPASSION IN YOU!
TO DO WHAT YOU DID, KATJA-SAMA
...THOSE MUST'VE BEEN SOME MEMORIES...
GIVING HER THAT NECKLACE MIGHT JUST AS WELL TURN OUT TO BE A PUNISHMENT
?!
WE CAN HOPE SHE'LL USE IT WISELY BUT I'D SAY THERE'S AN EVEN CHANCE...
THAT INSTEAD OF GETTING OUT AND AWAY...
SHE JUST SPENDS THAT MONEY ON DRUGS
AND SOON AS THE MONEY AND THE DRUGS ARE GONE SHE GOES BACK TO HER PIMP...
...AND WASTES THE REST OF HER LIFE REGRETTING WHAT SHE DID...
AND DREAMING OF THE LIFE SHE THREW AWAY

IF I COULDN'T PREDICT EVEN SUCH SHALLOW WORKINGS OF THE MIND
THEN, REALLY
I'D HAVE NO EXCUSE CALLING MYSELF "QUEEN"
AND I'M MORE THAN A QUEEN
I AM THE EMPRESS
COME NOW, TAMARA
WE'RE GOING TO MAGNOLIA

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